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September 1, 1994

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



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VIA FACSIMILE

Michael Anastasio, Esq.
Assistant Regional Counsel
United States Environmental
Protection Agency
77 W. Jackson Blvd., CS-3T
Chicago, IL 60604

Re: Granville Solvents Site

Dear Mike:

Enclosed please find a news article from the Granville Sentinel concerning the Granville Solvents Site settlement. I noted that Ed Hanlon was apparently misquoted when the article listed Amoco as opposed to Armco as one of the non-settling parties.

I thought that you might be interested in this article in the event the Agency wanted to advise the paper of the error.

Sincerely yours,

Ben L. Pfefferle, III

BLP:cjc

Enclosure

Granville Sentinel

Vol. 25 No. 10

September 1, 1994

Companies agree to clean up Granville Solvents

by Sally MacPhail

At least 74 of some 100 companies and agencies that left hazardous materials at Granville Solvents for recycling years ago have agreed to participate in clean-up of the site, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency told *The Sentinel* Tuesday.

Under an administrative order of consent signed by 74 Potentially Responsible Parties, as the EPA calls them, a groundwater extraction and treatment system will be installed and operational at the Palmer avenue site by December 20, 1994, halting the further movement of contamination through the groundwater toward the village's drinking water plant.

The U.S. EPA will be holding a public meeting in Granville to discuss the project on September 14 at 7 p.m. in the village offices.

It is hoped by the EPA, village residents and officials who have complained for years about the defunct recycling facility, and the parties who are funding the clean-up, that the project will bring to an end a long and distressing chapter in Granville history. What began in the late 1950s as a worthwhile attempt to recycle solvents, and ended as a business failure eight years ago, has become an environmental nightmare for the village that has threatened the village's water supply.

The Granville Solvents clean-up project falls under a federal Superfund order, according to Ed Hanlon, remedial project manager at the U.S. EPA office in Chicago. Superfund actions are intended to clean up the nation's worst hazardous and toxic waste sites.

State EPA officials determined in 1993 that a contamination "plume" was spreading in the

groundwater from the now defunct recycling company site toward the village's wellfield. The least contaminated edge of the plume was predicted to reach the water supply system in another 14 years, based on data collected by the state EPA from test wells at the site.

The village shut down its Number 1 pump in January of this year in an effort to slow the spread of the

plume. The state EPA had theorized that the plume was being drawn in part by the pumping action.

The source of the contamination is the Granville Solvents site, located below and just west of the Cherry street overpass, next to the T. J. Evans bike path. The solvents recycling operation owned by John Reeb of Granville was shut down in

1986 because of the company's failure to comply with federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act regulations. Reeb has said that he could not keep up with the regulations because of escalating permit costs; the same reason that prevented him from paying for its clean-up.

Left behind when the company shut down were 315 drums of hazardous waste stored in a 1,900-square-foot dilapidated green building about 800 feet from the village's waste supply wells on Raccoon Creek, six underground storage tanks, and six excavated tanks. Neighbors and village officials lobbied for clean-up of the site for years before the state stepped in in 1990 to determine the condition of the facility. The state found that the drums were leaking and posed an "immediate risk to human health," prompting Ohio EPA officials to provide interim clean-up of the site.

The state EPA disposed of the drums and removed the tanks, completing its interim clean-up in May of 1991. It also installed 14 wells to monitor any groundwater contamination from the building into the aquifer.

In addition to groundwater contamination, the state has determined from samplings that soil at the Solvents building is contaminated to a depth of 20 feet.

State EPA officials have estimated clean-up of the site to cost over \$2 million, but Hanlon of the federal EPA said Tuesday that a price tag has not been put on the project that will be undertaken by the Potentially Responsible Parties.

What is known is that the companies who sign the order of consent must provide the federal government with a work plan for the overall project within 30 days of the order being signed by the U.S. EPA divisional director, Hanlon said. That plan may include soil removal in addition to the pump-and-treat project, he said.

Hanlon and EPA community relations Coordinator Dave Novak

added that they expect the order to be signed and in effect by Tuesday, September 6.

Hanlon said that one or two more companies may sign into the project, but three of the principal

parties that have not signed are Amoco, Union Tank Car, and Larson.

When contacted Tuesday, Reel declined to comment on the EPA clean-up project.

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ROPES AND LEADERS. Denison's head residents, residence hall student advisers and fraternity student advisers worked their way through a ropes course on the lawn south of King Hall last Wednesday, August 24, prior to the start of classes. The course is intended to build team problem-solving skills and mutual trust.

—Brian Lindamood photo

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plume. The state EPA had theorized that the plume was being drawn in part by the pumping action.

The source of the contamination is the Granville Solvents site, located below and just west of the Cherry street overpass, next to the T.J. Evans bike path. The solvents recycling operation, which had been in operation since 1986 because of the company's failure to comply with federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act regulations. Reeb has said that he could not keep up with the regulations because of escalating permit costs, the same reason that prevented him from paying for its clean-up.

Left behind when the company closed was a large pile of waste. The company's failure to comply with federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act regulations. Reeb has said that he could not keep up with the regulations because of escalating permit costs, the same reason that prevented him from paying for its clean-up.

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(Cont.) on page



**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V**

**77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois 60604**

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Remedial & Enforcement Response Branch
Facsimile Cover Sheet
FAX COMM: 312-353-5541**

To: Mike Anastasio

Office phone: 312-886-7951

Machine No: x6-7160

From: Ed Hanlon

Office phone: (312) 353-9228

Office code: HSRM-6J

Date: 8/31/94

**Number of pages,
including cover: 3**

MESSAGE:

Attached FYI is a copy of an article to appear in tomorrow's "Granville Sentinel" newspaper about the Granville site.

Signature:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "RH" or similar initials, written over a horizontal line.

ager Doug Plunkett, Mayor Arnold Eiseberg, commercial real estate

ing for non-classroom A third team will consider reizin-

proj concerning the build- ing, King said.

the village and group known as elementary school overcrowding options, considering the positives and

Village Councilman Jim S. Hines was elected man of the task and Hiles was elected according secretary.

The group is scheduled to submit a report no later than November 15. McCord will then report the findings to the school board.

The task force is scheduled to meet next at 7:30 p.m. September 8 at the high school. King said the meeting is open to the public as are the subcommittee meetings. To find out when subcommittee meetings are scheduled, those interested should call Hiles.

Companies to undertake clean-up of contamination from Solvents

(Continued from page one)
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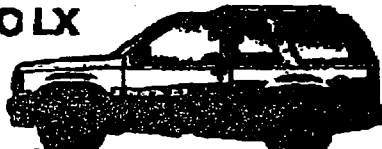


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Some things

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